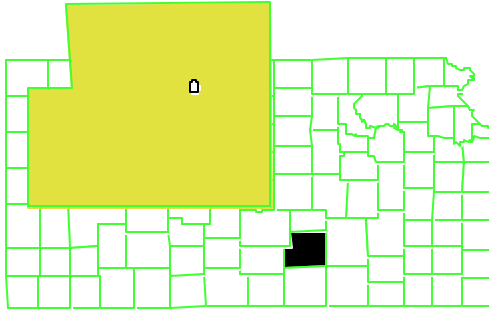


**BIG RIVER SAND  
COMPANY**  
**KANSAS**  
**EPA ID# KSD980686174**

**EPA Region 7**  
**City: Wichita**  
**County: Sedgwick County**  
**Other Names:**

**05/07/2003**



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Big River Sand Company site is a 123-acre sand and gravel mining operation that lies 1/2 mile west of the Arkansas River and next to the Wichita Valley Center Floodway. The western half of the site has been, and continues to be, extensively mined. The eastern half belongs to the former owner of the entire property. During the 1970s, roughly 2,000 drums of paint-related waste were disposed of on the site, next to a 5-acre sand quarry lake. In 1978, the Big River Sand Company bought 80 acres of the site and, in 1982, under the sales agreement and a court order, the previous owner started moving the drums to his side of the property. Nearly 200 drums had been transferred before the Kansas Department of Health and the Environment (KDHE) stopped the action. The facility was not licensed to store or dispose of the waste and on-site workers did not use protective equipment. The State's intervention in 1982 showed that drums on site were damaged, corroded, and leaking. Waste solvents and paint sludges from several drums contained metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which were flammable. In 1984, the State and the property owner completed a surface cleanup. All paint wastes were taken off site, as were about 2,000 barrels and four large solvent storage tanks. State analysts found solvents and heavy metals in nearby residential wells in 1982 and 1984. Approximately 25 homes lie within 1/4 mile to the west of the property. Two offices and three homes are located on the site's southern edge. An estimated 1,000 people draw drinking water from wells located within a 3-mile radius of the site. Ground water also is used for crop irrigation and industrial processes.

### **Site Responsibility:**

This site was addressed through Federal and State actions.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 10/15/1984

**Final Date:** 06/10/1986

**Deleted Date:** 10/14/1992

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## THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

This site presents no significant threat to human health or the environment, since cleanup actions and natural processes have reduced contaminant levels; however, people using private wells in the area should be advised that the natural levels of iron, manganese, and selenium in their wells are higher than State and Federal standards recommend.

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## CLEANUP APPROACH

### Response Action Status

Remedial investigations were conducted by EPA in 1986 and 1987. Based on information and data obtained by the investigations, EPA and the state determined no further action was necessary.

**Site Facts:** The State ordered a potentially responsible party to conduct cleanup of surface contamination in September, 1982. From 1982-1987, the state provided oversight of cleanup activities performed by the party. Approximately 40 cubic yards of hazardous paint sludges were removed and 10,000 gallons of solvent were recycled from over 2,000 drums found at the site.

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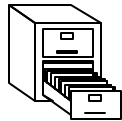
## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



After intensive investigations, the EPA and the State determined that the Big River Sand Company site does not pose a threat to the community or the environment. In a Record of Decision signed in June, 1988, the EPA and state determined no further actions was necessary. The site was deleted from the NPL on October 14, 1992.

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## SITE REPOSITORY



Wichita Public Library  
223 S. Main Street  
Wichita, KS 67202

Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-4038

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

Mary Peterson

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

[peterston.mary@epa.gov](mailto:peterston.mary@epa.gov)

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(913) 551-7882

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR:** Hattie Thomas

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(913) 551-7003

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

[thomas.hattie@epa.gov](mailto:thomas.hattie@epa.gov)

**STATE CONTACT:**

Dan Gravatt

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(785) 296-6378

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

KS

075N

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

04

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

SFD-MOKS/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS

**Created by:**

Karla  
Asberry/SUPRFUND/R7/US  
EPA/US

**Created Date:**

10/20/1997 03:23 PM

**Last Modified by:** Jude

Roach/SUPR/R7/USEPA/US

**Last Modified Date:**

05/07/2003 12:29 PM

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